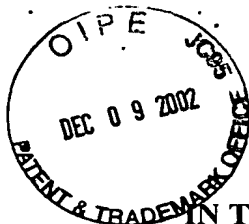


#97



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: :
Examiner: :
In re application of: : NOVEL USES OF
Sergio A. Lira : MAMMALIAN CCR8
Serial No.: 09/780,724 : RECEPTORS AND
Mailing Date: February 9, 2001 : RELATED REAGENTS
Attorney Docket No.: JB 01066 Q US :

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DEC 23 2002

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Kenilworth, NJ 07033
December 4, 2002

Box DAC
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend the application captioned above as follows:

In the Specification:

Please delete the section entitled "BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE
DRAWING FIGURE", which is located on page 3, lines 21-23 of the specification.

Please replace the paragraph on page 21, lines 26-35 with the following:

a' A 1.2 kb Bgl II DNA fragment of the mCCR8 gene containing the 5' region of
homology, and a 6.5 kb Bgl II-Hind III fragment containing the 3' region of
homology were sequentially cloned into a targeting vector according to the method of